

Message Text

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20

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 NEA-10 SPC-03 AID-20 EB-11

NSC-10 RSC-01 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08 OMB-01

CEA-02 INT-08 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00

XMB-07 OPIC-12 LAB-06 SIL-01 DRC-01 DODE-00 PA-04

USIA-15 PRS-01 L-03 H-03 /201 W
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R 171046Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 622

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 9516

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AU

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER ON AUSTRIAN FOREIGN POLICY

1. IN LECTURE BEFORE AUSTRIAN FOREIGN POLICY ASSOCIATION, NOV. 15, ENTITLED AUSTRIAN FOREIGN POLICY: ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND PROSPECTS," FOREIGN MINISTER REVIEWED IN COMPLIMENTARY FASHION ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF AUSTRIAN FOREIGN POLICY IN RECENT PERIOD, ITS INCREASED STATURE IN UN AND ITS EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF PEACE AND PRSPERITY IN THE WORLD. SPEECH CONTAINED TWO NOTEWORTHY POINTS: GOA VIEW OF POSSIBLE OIL BOYCOTT AND OF EUROPEAN COMMUNITY'S CRITICISM OF US RE MIDDLE EAST ACTIONS.

2. ON OIL KIRCHSCHLAEGER SAID THAT AUSTRIA WAS NOT THREATENED WITH BOYCOTT AND THAT "AUSTRIA WOULD MAINTAIN AS HERETOFORE POLICY OF FRIENDSHIP AND UNDERSTANDING VIS-A-VIS ALL COUNTRIES IN MIDDLE EAST WITHOUT TILTING IN ONE DIRECTION OR ANOTHER."

3. OTHER NOTEWORTHY POINT OF SPEECH WAS KIRCHSCHLAEGER'S CRITICISM OF WESTERN EUROPE'S INABILITY TO ACT IN CONCERT ON MAJO ISSUES ON ONE HAND AND ITS PENCHANT TO EXPRESS ITS FRUSTRATIONS OVER ITS OWN SHORTCOMINGS BY ATTACKING US FOR TAKING DECISIVE

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ACTION ON OTHER HAND. REFERRING TO MIDDLE EAST, HE SAID "IT

APPEARS TO ME THAT WE EUROPEAN STATES HAVE NO CAUSE TO COMPLAIN THAT THE SUPERPOWERS ALONE EXERCISED AN INFLUENCE ON PARTIES TO CONFLICT AND HAVE VIA SECURITY COUNCIL BROUGHT ABOUT CEASEFIRE. BURNING FIRES WHICH THREATEN TO ENGULF OTHER OBJECTS CAN ONLY BE EXTINGUISHED BY THOSE WHO HAVE THE MEANS."

4. IN PRIVATE CONVERSATION LATER SAME EVENING FOREIGN MINISTER EXPRESSED IN BOLDER TERMS TO ACTING DCM HIS OWN SENSE OF DISAPPOINTMENT OVER SLOW PACE AT WHICH WESTERN EUROPEAN STATES ARE MOVING IN DIRECTION OF GREATER POLITICAL UNITY. HE WAS LESS THAN COMPLIMENTARY ABOUT EC-9 DECLARATION ON MIDDLE EAST AND REGISTERED CONCERN THAT CURRENT WESTERN EUROPEAN-US CONTROVERSY OVER RESPECTIVE ROLES AND RELATIONSHIPS CAN ONLY DAMAGE UNITY OF WESTERN WORLD AT TIME WHEN VERY IMPORTANT NEGOTIATIONS INVOLVING INTERESTS OF MANY COUNTRIES, INCLUDING AUSTRIA, ARE UNDERWAY WITH COMMUNIST POWERS. HUMES

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